

SUBWAY SUICIDE ANNOUNCED HIS INTENDED PLUNGE

Charles B. Williams Gave Mysterious Warning to Trainmaster.

HAD MEMO. OF RACES.

Slip of Paper Aids Identification of Desperate Suicide at Station.

The man who threw himself in front of a subway express train from the platform of the Seventy-second street station last night was identified today as Charles B. Williams, of No. 25 East One Hundred and Twenty-second street. The identification was made by his brother, Frederick.

When the body was picked up from the tracks all that was found in the suicide's pocket was a slip of paper on which were written the names of two horses—Lord Stannope and Helen Kilder—and the addresses, No. 2756 Eighth avenue, and No. 73 West One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street. No one at these addresses knew the dead man.

The subway trainmen made a good deal of a mystery about the suicide. It was reported to the police that the trainmaster at Ninety-sixth street had received word in some way that an attempt at suicide would be made at his station, and was keeping a sharp look out for such an attempt when word came clicking over the wire that a man had been ground to death at Seventy-second street.

Just how the trainmaster received such a warning has not been explained. James Murray, a boy, No. 82 Second avenue, saw the man loitering about the steps of the station for half an hour before he killed himself. When an express train was heard approaching the man walked to the north end of the station and threw himself onto the tracks. Motorman Charles H. Hahn had no opportunity to avoid the fatality.

As the suicide's body was cut to ribbons, his kinsman had difficulty in establishing an identification. After he had seen the body and the clothes he was sure that the dead man was his brother.

Williams was forty years old and a bookkeeper. He had been out of work for some time and living with his sister at No. 101 East One Hundred and Twenty-second street. The sister said today that she had become despondent over his inability to get work and had frequently talked of ending his life.

Lately Williams had become morose and his health began to break down. He would go downtown every day hunting for work, returning with a heavy load of despair. He had been unable to get work.

Charles H. Hahn, motorman of the train that ran over the suicide, was held in \$2000 bail by Coroner Harburger on a charge of homicide.

CROWD SEES GEM ROBBERY. Thieves Carry Off \$15,000 Worth of Diamonds in New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 20.—A \$15,000 diamond robbery in broad daylight in the heart of New Orleans, with hundreds of persons passing at the time, was perpetrated here late yesterday at the jewelry establishment of M. Waldhorn & Co., 201 Canal street.

Two men drove up in front of the store in a buggy. One of them alighted and smashed one of the large plate glass windows in the front of the store. He quickly seized two trays filled with diamonds and, jumping back into the buggy, was driven off. A large crowd started in pursuit, but the man, buggy and horse were soon lost to sight in a cloud of dust at the old French quarter. The trays contained 112 diamond rings.

Taft Back in Washington; Off Again in Day or Two.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Secretary of War Taft, who for the past twelve days has been on a tour through the West, North and East, reached here today in time to appear before the morning session of the House Committee on Insular Affairs. A canal conference engaged the attention of the secretary later in the day at the White House. The accumulation of official matters was then considered by Mr. Taft at his residence.

The secretary has an engagement to deliver an address at Buffalo, N. Y., Saturday night, and will leave Washington Friday afternoon for that city to be gone until Sunday night.

250 GIRLS RUN FROM FIRE. 20 OVERCOME BY SMOKE.

(Special to The Evening World.) PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 20.—Two hundred and fifty girls employed in the hosiery and cotton yarn mill of Thomas Henry sons, of this city, fled in panic from flames and in their flight about twenty were overcome by smoke. They were dragged out by other employees and carried into nearby drug stores, where they were treated.

The mill building, a five-story structure, was badly damaged.

FOUR CRUISERS AT FRISCO FROM MAGDALENA BAY.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 20.—The armored cruisers West Virginia, Maryland, Tennessee and Washington arrived here this morning from Magdalena Bay. The cruisers Colorado and Pennsylvania, which accompanied them by the coast, did not enter the harbor, but proceeded northward to the Breton Navy Yard. The four big vessels are anchored near the battleship Nebraska.

A POPULAR SONG HIT. In "The Girl Behind the Counter," Lew Fields' musical comedy, at the Herald Square, they sang "If You'll Walk With Me." It is the hit of the show. It is given in the Magazine Section of the Evening World.

Debussy's "Pelleas et Melisande," Upsetting All Old Theories of Opera, Holds the Attention of a Distinguished Audience at the Manhattan

Mr. Hammerstein Gives Famous Work a Splendid Setting and Produces It with a Fine Cast.

MARY GARDEN APPEARS A BEAUTIFUL MELISANDE

Dufranne Charms, Both as Singer and Actor—Four of the Cast Creators of Their Characters.

By Sylvester Ratwling.

"PELLEAS ET MELISANDE," Debussy's opera founded on Maeterlinck's drama, which Mr. Hammerstein presented at the Manhattan Opera-House last night for the first time in America, will be the talk of New York music lovers for some time to come. Only "Parsifal" and "Salome," in recent years, have equalled it as a sensation, and it is far more revolutionary than either. Everybody was asking himself and his neighbor last night: "Is this the foundation of a new school of opera?"

Those who remember the earlier struggles to convince people that Wagner was anything but noise and fury and have lived to see his works become classics in every country will be chary of answering an emphatic "No!" Yet the temptation is strong.

In this work of the revolutionary Frenchman are shown the possibilities of presenting poetic dramas with musical settings; but if this is opera, what shall we call "Lola," or "Rigoletto," or "Aida," or "The Meistersinger," or "Tristan und Isolde," or "Pagliacci," or "Tosca"? Lovers of the old bel canto and of the new dramatic singing alike must subject themselves to a new conversion.

Singers Practically Chant. Debussy's characters practically chant their lines. There is not a single tune in the whole opera—scarcely even a melody. Would it not be better that the words should be spoken naturally with the orchestral accompaniment, merely a suggestive influence and a sustaining power?

Question as one will, doubt as one may, the fact remains that Debussy's music grips and stirs one strangely. It may be decadent. It surely is dramatic. It breathes the spirit of the swamps, of the dark forests, of the subterranean, death-defying wells and caverns of the decaying houses, of the ill and old people of the story. Maeterlinck himself if he were a musician, might say it is Maeterlinck, not Debussy, that speaks through the mystical, haunting, tantalizing orchestration that seems to brood and brew and never reach a climax.

Melisande Brutally Shaken. The story, which is identical in origin with that of "Francesca di Rimini," only that it is transferred to an earlier period, placed in Northern wilds and imbued with the weird fancifulness of the Maeterlinck, was told briefly by Mr. Terhanian in the Evening World's series of "Stories of the Operas" on Tuesday. It is divided into five acts and a dozen scenes. Perhaps the most dramatic is that in which Golaud, gnawed with a jealousy of which he is half ashamed, exercises the rights of primal man and mauls his wife, Melisande, like a drunkard on her about the floor by her hair, for which the text calls, he contented himself with seizing her by the shoulders, throwing her to the ground and shaking her as a terrier would a rat. The odd thing is that King Arkel, who was present, never stirred a finger to help Melisande, although he is a gentleman as well as a King and is fond of her.

Not Covered by Her Hair. That hair, five feet four inches long, taken from the head of a peasant in Brittany for the use of Melisande in this opera, was in braids at the time. In an earlier scene, when Pelleas surprises her at her window letting her hair down for the night, it is supposed to fall down all over him. But it doesn't; for, if it did, how could he sing? Pelleas, it is true, tells her how fond she has emmeshed him.

All the scenes are well set. The first, where Golaud surprises Melisande at the spring in the forest, both being lost, looks very natural. She makes a beautiful picture and the dimly lighted way in which she follows him, fitting from tree to tree, is far more attractive than one would expect from the text.

The Fatal Fountain. Melisande's first flirtation with Pelleas, the fountain when she loses the ring Golaud gave her, is very picturesque. It is at this moment that the horse of Golaud, who is far away, suddenly bolts and throws him, one of the many strange things that happen in this story. It is at this same fountain later on that Melisande and Pelleas, having mutually declared their love within his hearing, Golaud kills Pelleas. The grotto, where Golaud has sent Melisande to find the ring she falsely said she had lost there, with the three blind men sleeping inside, typifying something which knows what's right and the bottomless, foul-smelling, death-dealing well in the vault of the castle to which Golaud leads Pelleas, apparently to terrorize him, are also picturesquely effective; but they might be omitted without loss.

Melisande Dies Alone. The last scene, with Golaud's frantic and brutal insistence that Melisande, dying, shall tell him the truth as to her relations with the dead Pelleas, is most effective. It is merely by one jarring note, Everybody, including the Doctor, for some minutes before the end, keeps away from the bedside. Melisande dies absolutely alone. And what has become of Genevieve, mother of Golaud and Pelleas, who, naturally,



PERIER AS PELLEAS. MARY GARDEN AS MELISANDE.

Where Mary Garden Got That Five Feet Four Wig

"PELLEAS ET MELISANDE" was first produced in Paris in April, 1902. Mary Garden was the original impersonator of the heroine. Outside of Paris until last night the opera has been presented only in Frankfurt and Brussels, and Mary Garden was always the heroine. Nobody else has portrayed her. The American prima donna has declared the part "seems to belong to me."

Maeterlinck in the drama and Debussy in the opera had insisted upon the wonderful red gold hair which the elfin maiden wore, and Mary Garden would not consent to any wig of shreds and patches. Consequently, a search was made for natural hair like Melisande's. After six months of fruitless endeavor in Germany, Switzerland and southern France, a girl was found in a hamlet near St. Malo, Brittany, who had the requisite natural locks.

For 1200 francs, it is said, she consented to give up the treasure. With that she was married and made happy, and her hair was the golden treasure with which Pelleas was smothered at the Manhattan Opera-House last night.

"Siegfried" Well Sung at the Metropolitan.

THE season's first performance of Wagner's "Siegfried" was last night's offering at the Metropolitan Opera-House. Despite vile weather and the premier of "Pelleas and Melisande" at the river, the most average audience had turned out, and it remained to the end of the long evening. The production was decidedly creditable, Mahler conducting with authority and rare interpretation. Curtain calls were many, and merited.

Burgstaller's Siegfried, though marred repeatedly by hoarseness, was well up to the tenor's vigorous, robust standard. If he does not wholly bring out the buoyant, effervescent youthfulness of the role, he at least lends to it a strength and fervor that are thoroughly convincing. The part in one of Burgstaller's best, not only from a vocal standpoint, but visually and histrionically as well.

There is a minor detail of stage management which in this later day of ever-increasing operatic realism could be vastly improved on. It is the battle between Siegfried and Siegfried. A quarter century ago the spectacle of the fur-clad youth rhythmically slapping with his sword the paper-mache scales of an asthmatic property dragon may have been all-satisfying. To the "Perfect Wagner" it is a most appeal. But to the average spectator the combat verges perilously close to the ludicrous. It would seem that a more impressive, less machine-like stage struggle might be evolved.

Reiss is probably the best Mime this house has ever known. His art is without fault and stands upon a dramatic plane all its own. Last night he in no way lessened the flawless picture of the shambling, crafty dwarf which he has taught New Yorkers to recognize as a masterpiece.

Von Rooy was a sonorous, dignified Wanderer, and rose to exceptional heights in his third act scene with Erda. The Alberich of Goritz and Blass's Father were thoroughly well done.

Mme. Fremstad, as Brunnhilde (though always wholly the "woman" and never the fallen "koddess"), gave a strong, satisfying portrayal of a brief emotional part. She was in good voice and moreover always a joy to the eye. Mme. Kirby-Lunn was a dramatic, if not especially brightly colored, Miss Aileen "Forrest" Birch, a role in which Lillie Lehmann, by the way, made an operatic debut more ago than any cares to remember. Her was tuneful and sufficiently ethereal.

HARRIET HOSMER ILL. BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 20.—Miss Harriet Hosmer, a sculptress, whose most noted work, "Zenobia," is in the British Museum, is seriously ill with pneumonia and has been in Waterbury.



PERIER AS PELLEAS. MARY GARDEN AS MELISANDE.

"CUPID HUNTERS" OF COUNTRY ARE RULED BY A TRUST

Secret Service After Officials, Means to Wipe Out All Marriage Bureaus.

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—A gigantic matrimonial trust, embracing all "couple hunter" agencies, similar to the Marian Grey Searchlight Club of Elgin, was unearthed in the Federal Grand Jury room yesterday.

Information leaked out that evidence had been secured positively proving that the hundreds of "Soul-mate" bureaus operated in every section of the country were controlled by a Chicago and a New York man and possibly by two other men.

Secret Service men, headed by Chief Stuart and Walter S. Mayer, Chief Post Office Inspector of New York, were called as witnesses before the Grand Jury and gave valuable testimony in regard to the matrimonial trust.

The Government attorneys expect to break up "traffic in marriages" in one swoop by the arrest and conviction of the officials of the combination. Secret Service men, given the lead by information secured in the Marian Grey trial, have shown all matrimonial agencies in the country use the same testimonial as sent out by Miss Grey, as well as the same stock pictures.

"STAATS" BUILDING IS SOLD FOR \$6,000.

Comptroller Metz Disposes of Structure that City Paid \$1,650,000 to Acquire.

Comptroller Metz sold for the city the Staats Zeitung Building on Tryon row to-day. It brought \$6,000. He tried to sell it a few weeks ago, but could only get a bid of \$2,500, and as he had offered \$5,000 for it at private sale, he withdrew it.

He heard a syndicate had been made up of house wreckers to get the building at their own price, and he advertised in Boston, Philadelphia and other places, bringing wreckers from those places to compete.

Morris Sacks, a scrap iron dealer, of Maiden lane, bought the building with a great deal of machinery, including dynamos, engines and elevators. It is said it will cost about \$2,500 to remove the structure. The wreckers have ninety days within which to return the building to the city.

The city bought the Staats Zeitung Building and site last summer for \$1,650,000. The site was needed for the bridge terminal and loop it is intended to build on the land acquired in the immediate vicinity of the Manhattan terminal. A skyscraper municipal building is to be erected, which will in part be for city offices.

A POPULAR SONG HIT. In "The Girl Behind the Counter," Lew Fields' musical comedy, at the Herald Square, they sing "If You'll Walk With Me." It is the hit of the show. It is given in the Magazine Section of next Sunday's World—words and music, Order to-day.

FORMER BROOKLYN GIRL TO WED ALASKA MAN.

Miss Clum's Engagement to Fairbanks Merchant, Vachon, Announced.

Miss Caro Kingsland Clum, formerly of Brooklyn, has written from Fairbanks, Alaska, announcing her engagement to Peter Alexander Vachon, a business man of that place. Miss Clum left Brooklyn two years ago with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John P. Clum, for Fairbanks, where her father is now postmaster.

The wedding will take place in the summer, after which the couple will take a honeymoon trip around the world.

EDISON WHEELS STOPPED.

Every wheel in the Edison plants in West Orange, N. J., was stopped yesterday during the funeral of John F. Randolph, late treasurer of the allied Edison companies, and Mr. Edison sent a wreath thirty-six inches in diameter, made of 2000 flowers and 1,000 tiles of the value of the laboratory sent a wreath of 300 American beauty roses and 4000 flowers, with a base formed of 100 Easter lilies.

BEST METHOD OF REDUCING FAT WINS PRIZE

The first prize of a house and lot for the best fat producer has been won by Mrs. Maggie Provis, of Michigan, with this receipt: 46 ounce Marmola, 1/4 ounce Fluid Extract Casara Aromatic and 2 1/2 ounces Syrup Simple. The proper quantity to take is a teaspoonful after meals and at bedtime. These simple ingredients can be obtained of any druggist and mixed at home.

The rules of this unique and practical contest were for contestants to send in the fat-reducing plans to the paper for publication. Subscribers were then asked to test these methods and describe the results. The contestant whose plan gave the best effects was adjudged the winner.

Mrs. Provis's receipt ran far ahead of all others in the number of fat reducers who tried it and also outdistanced them in the satisfactory character of the results obtained.

It was found that unlike all other internal remedies for superfluous fat it did not disturb the stomach or cause wrinkles, but brought about a quick and firm reduction of the extra fat wherever most abundant without rendering other and normal parts of the body too thin. No other method approached it in the amount of fat it could take off, other many subscribers reporting a reduction of one inch in one week.

All agreed that the state of the health generally was greatly improved by taking it for three or four weeks and in no case was exercising or dieting required to help it get the right kind of results.

Mrs. Provis's simple plan did not score a single fat reducer out of the people who tried her receipt pointed out in their letters that the Marmola, the druggist will send in one-ounce packages, which can be bought separately and mixed with the other two ingredients at home, brought the quickest results.

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NOT NICE, SHE SAYS, TO BE CALLED A CAT

Blonde Mrs. McIntosh Says Brunette Mrs. Shive Applied Other Epithets.

Magistrate House, in Harlem Court today, was unable to determine the merits of a complaint made by Mrs. James McIntosh, of No. 315 Broadway, against Mrs. John Shive, who lives across the court at No. 3157. He adjourned the case and told his probationary officer to investigate. It is likely that many of the persons living in the five-story apartment may be called as witnesses.

Mrs. Shive is a widow and lives on the fourth floor. Her windows look down into those of Mrs. McIntosh on the third floor. Mrs. McIntosh declared that the widow had called her "mouquin," "painted images" and other names from an apparently limitless repertoire. She also stated that Mrs. Shive shook rugs and carpets into her windows and over her laundry, ruining her lingerie. Complaint No. 3 set forth that Mrs. McIntosh was forced to turn to Magistrate House and said: "And, Judge, don't I look like a natural low-down?"

Mrs. Shive denied all the charges. She said that she did shake her rugs, but was forced to do so of necessity. She said she never spoke to Mrs. McIntosh, and would not know her from a crowd. She said that two of her dead husband's friends boarded in her apartment, and that they could vouch for the truthfulness of her statements.

DUCHESS DUZES LEAVES SUDDENLY.

Sister-in-Law of the Former Miss Shonts Summoned to Paris by Illness of Her Son.

The Duchess d'Uzes, sister-in-law of the Duc de Chaulnes, and Prince Gallitzin, his uncle, who came to New York dining, sailed for France today on the liner La Bretagne. The plans of the Duchess called for a stay in New York until next Saturday, but disquieting advices concerning her son, who is ill in Paris, prompted her to hasten her return.

The Duc and Duchess de Chaulnes, Mrs. Shonts, Marguerite Shonts, Baron de la Bouillere, the best man at the wedding, and Baron Cande, accompanied the Duchess d'Uzes to the pier. Baron de la Bouillere and Baron Cande are having such a good time in New York that they cannot tear themselves away.

The volatile Duchess says she enjoyed her brief visit immensely and will return to New York at the first opportunity. She is anxious to see all of the United States. The Duc and Duchess de Chaulnes will not sail until about the middle of March.

SAVES BOY ONLY TO DIE HIMSELF. O'Rourke Carries Lad from Gas-Filled Room, Then Succumbs.

An investigation is being made to-day of the death of Richard O'Rourke, caretaker of the Cassayuna Club, No. 125 West Ninety-seventh street, who rescued Francis Lawson, a sixteen-year-old boy, from death by gas, only to die himself from the effects.

While neither case was reported to the police or Coroner, it is said the boy attempted suicide. He is a son of Mrs. Sophia Lawson, and was a victim of overstudy.

Monday he attempted to buy rope at a nearby store saying something about killing himself. Later his mother and sister found the hall filled with gas, and the boy's door locked.

O'Rourke was called in, broke the door and was almost overcome before he could shut off the gas and carry out the boy. He returned home, was apparently recovering, but on Tuesday was found dead in his bed by his wife. The boy has recovered.